Blitz Phoenix

Chapter 16: Aftermath

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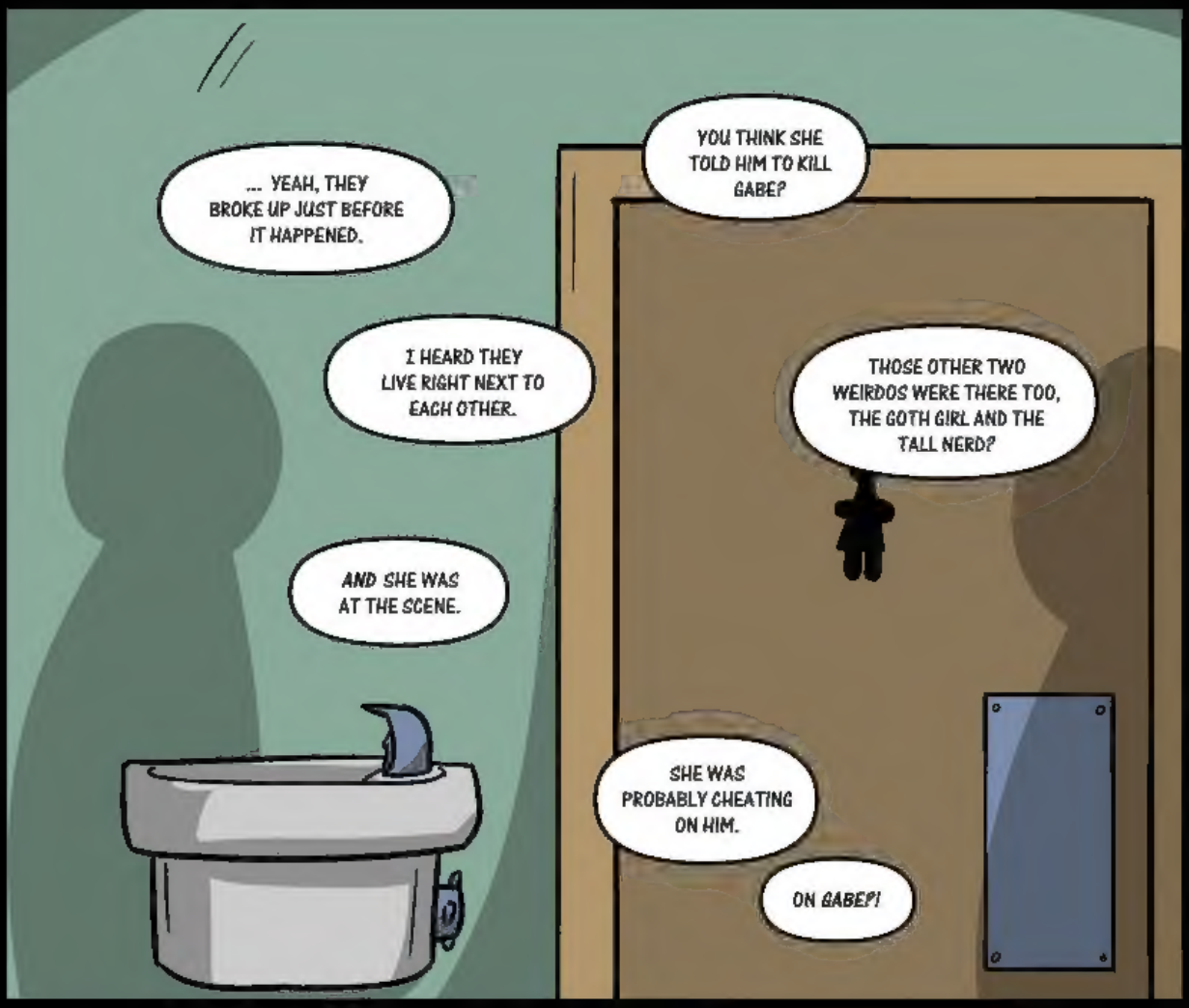
http://www.blitzphoenix.com/

... DID YOU HEAR WHAT HAPPENED TO GABRIEL?
WHAT?
OH MY GOD...
I SAW IT ON THE NEWS!
ALEX AND TONY, TOO.
WHAT HAPPENED?
TERRY *BREYKEN*? WHO'S *THAT*?
I THINK HE'S THAT WEIRD KID WITH THE CARTOON HAIR.
WASN'T GABRIEL THE ONE WHO LEFT IN AN AMBULENCE LAST MONDAY?
HE KILLED THEM?!

OVER THE WEEKEND, THE LIVES OF THREE OF OUR STUDENTS... ALEX WAGNER, ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ...
AND GABRIEL LARSON... WERE TRAGICALLY CUT SHORT.
THESE YOUNG MEN WERE WELL-KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL AND THEIR COMMUNITIES. THERE WILL BE A PRAYER VIGIL HELD AROUND THE FLAG POLE AT 3 PM TODAY.
GRIEF COUNSELORS ARE IN THE BUILDING FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. IF YOU NEED TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE, FEEL FREE TO EXCUSE YOURSELF AND--
WHAT ABOUT *TERRY?*
YOU CAN TALK TO THE COUNSELOR ABOUT *HIM*, TOO.
DIDN'T *HE* KILL THEM--
WE ARE *NOT* DISCUSSING THE DETAILS HERE. YOU CAN TALK TO THE COUNCELORS IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS.
I WAS JUST *ASKING.*

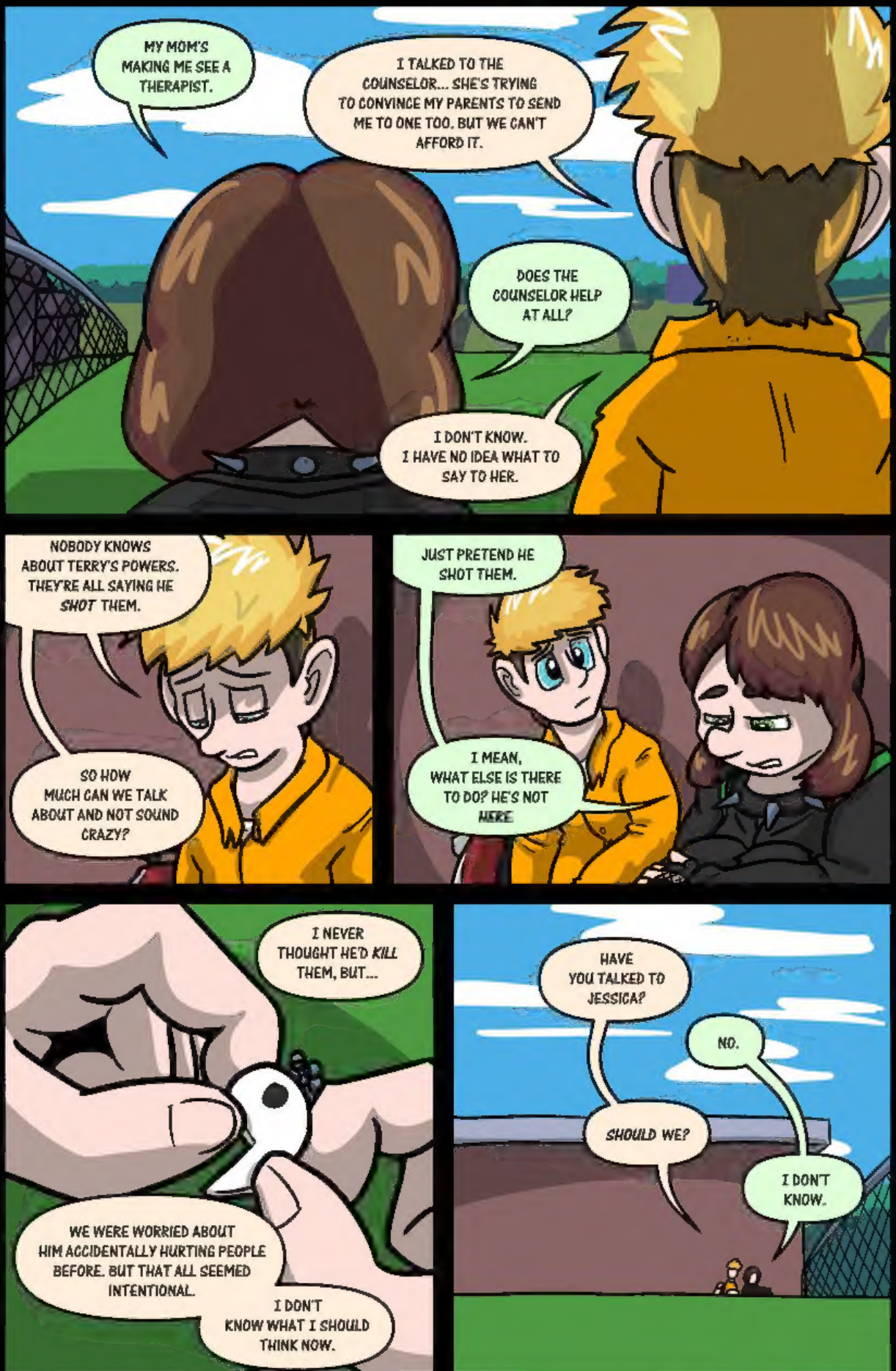

... YEAH, THEY BROKE UP JUST BEFORE IT HAPPENED.
I HEARD THEY LIVE RIGHT NEXT TO EACH OTHER.
AND SHE WAS AT THE SCENE.
YOU THINK SHE TOLD HIM TO KILL GABE?
THOSE OTHER TWO WEIRDOS WERE THERE TOO, THE GOTH GIRL AND THE TALL NERD?
SHE WAS PROBABLY CHEATING ON HIM.
ON GABE?!

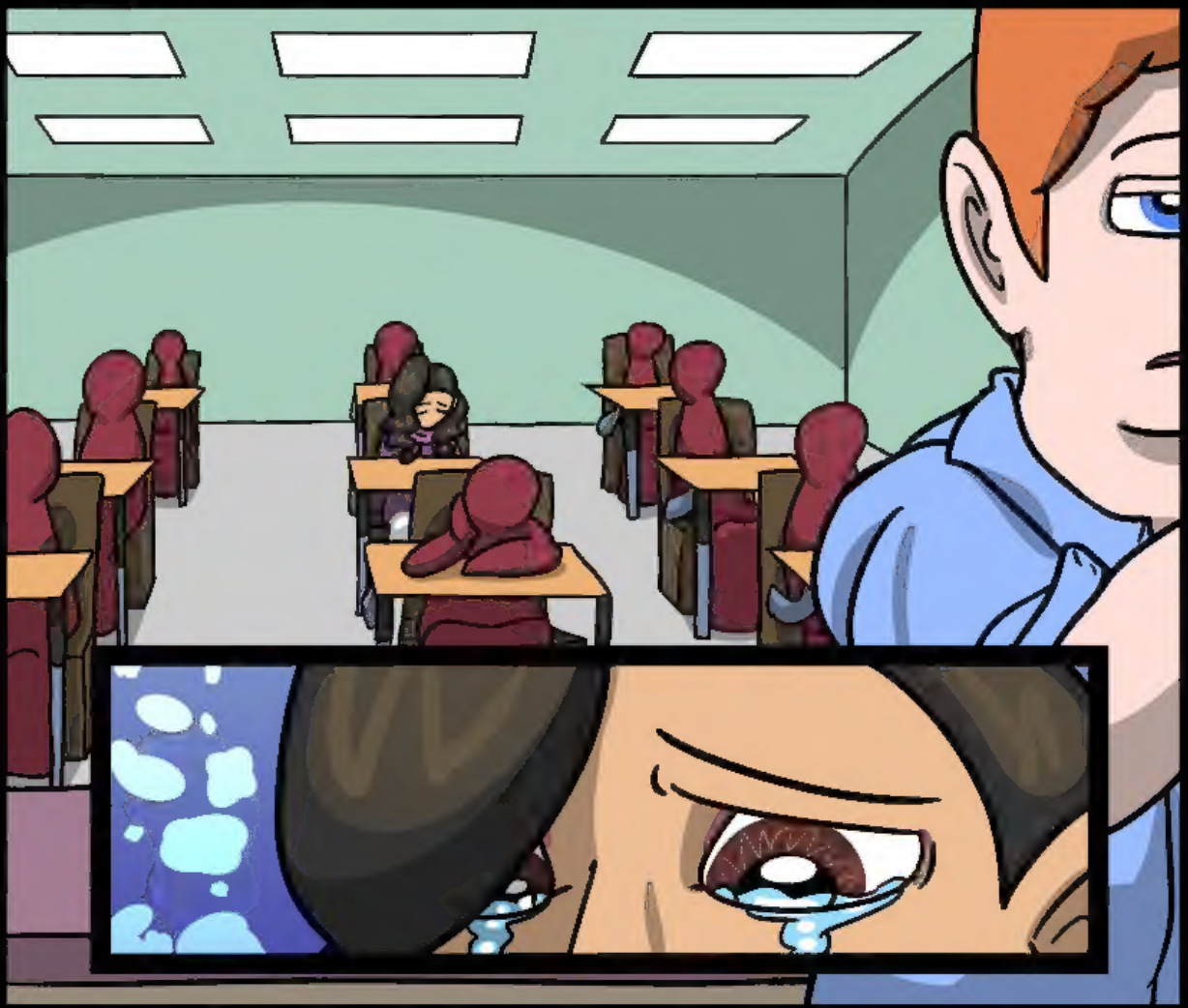
THE COPS SAID HE LURED THEM TO THE BASEMENT AND SHOT THEM.
I'VE SEEN THAT KID TALKING TO HIMSELF IN THE HALLS SOMETIMES, WHEN HE'S ALONE.
YEAH HE'S ALWAYS BEEN A FREAK, I'M NOT SURPRSIED IT WAS HIM.
HOW COME JUST TERRY WAS ARRESTED IF THEY WERE ALL THERE?

SHH!
THERE SHE IS!

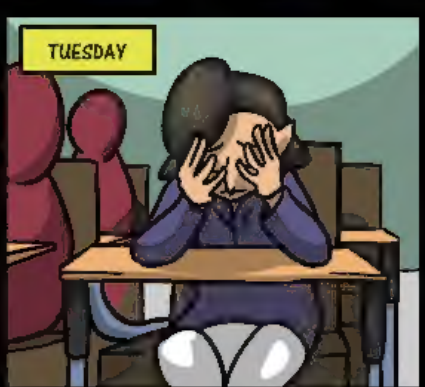
GASP!
Murder
BITCH

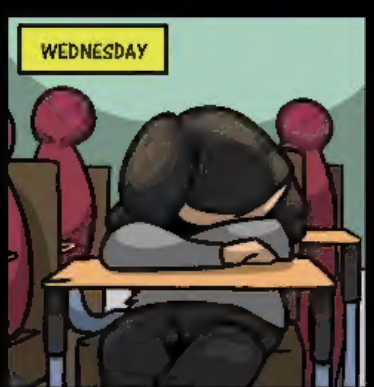
HEY.
HEY...
WHAT HAVE YOU HEARD?
NOTHING GOOD...
BUT MOST OF THE RUMORS SEEM TO BE ABOUT TERRY, JESSICA, AND GABE'S GROUP. NOT MUCH ABOUT US.
YEAH, THAT'S WHAT I'VE HEARD TOO. AND EVERYONE HAS THE STORY WRONG.
HERE.
SO IT NEVER REALLY HELPED HIM ANYWAY.
I DON'T KNOW THAT THERE WAS ANYTHING WE COULD HAVE DONE.

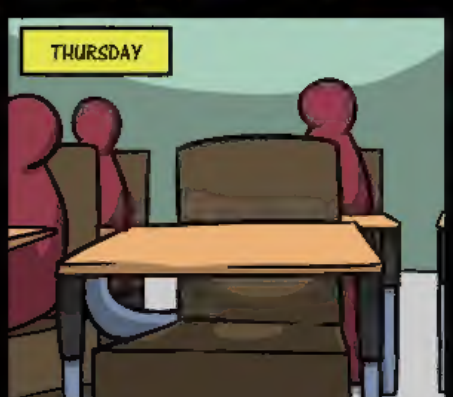

MY MOM'S MAKING ME SEE A THERAPIST.
I TALKED TO THE COUNSELOR... SHE'S TRYING TO CONVINCE MY PARENTS TO SEND ME TO ONE TOO. BUT WE CAN'T AFFORD IT.
DOES THE COUNSELOR HELP AT ALL?
I DON'T KNOW. I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT TO SAY TO HER.
NOBODY KNOWS ABOUT TERRY'S POWERS. THEY'RE ALL SAYING HE SHOT THEM.
SO HOW MUCH CAN WE TALK ABOUT AND NOT SOUND CRAZY?
JUST PRETEND HE SHOT THEM.
I MEAN, WHAT ELSE IS THERE TO DO? HE'S NOT HERE
I NEVER THOUGHT HE'D KILL THEM, BUT...
WE WERE WORRIED ABOUT HIM ACCIDENTALLY HURTING PEOPLE BEFORE. BUT THAT ALL SEEMED INTENTIONAL.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I SHOULD THINK NOW.
HAVE YOU TALKED TO JESSICA?
NO.
SHOULD WE?
I DON'T KNOW.



MONDAY


TUESDAY


WEDNESDAY


THURSDAY

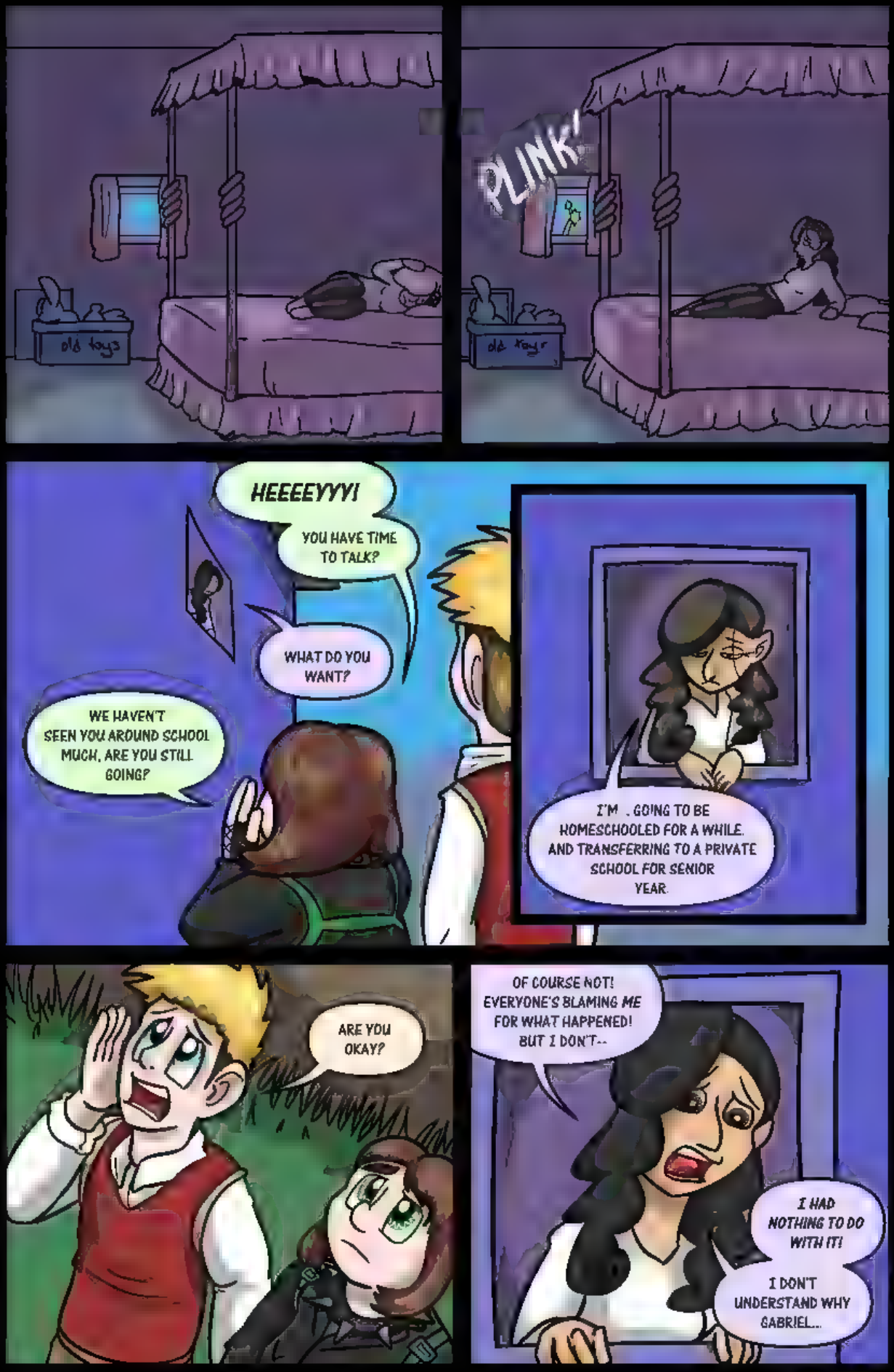
FRIDAY

THE NEXT WEEK...
DID YOU HEAR? THAT TERRY KID GOT LET GO.
THE GUY WHO KILLED GABRIEL?
YEAH, THEY DROPPED HIS CHARGES.
WHAT?! WHY?!
I READ THEY'RE LOOKING FOR A DIFFERENT SUSPECT.
A DIFFERENT SUSPECT?!
THAT'S WHAT THE ARTICLE SAID.
WHAT'S GOING ON, NAT?! SCHOOL ISN'T OVER, WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE!

...ARE YOU SURE THEY SAID THAT?
POSITIVE. I FOUND THE ARTICLE THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT ONLINE. THEY LET HIM OUT LAST WEEK.
BUT IF HE'S OUT, WHY HASN'T HE CALLED US?
HE DOESN'T HAVE A PHONE, REMEMBER?
YEAH, BUT.. IT JUST SEEMS WEIRD, DOESN'T IT?
TH' FUCK YA WANT?
WE HEARD TERRY WAS LET OUT, IS HE HOME?
WHO?
UH... TERRY? YOUR NEPHEW?
AH DON 'AVE A NEPHEW, AN' AH GOT NO PATIENCE FER KIDS

YES, YOU DO? HE LIVED HERE!
THEY AIN'T NO KIDS 'ERE, YA GOT TH' WRONG HOUSE.
DID YOU GET HIT ON THE HEAD? WE WERE HERE A WEEK AGO!
LOOK, IF YEH'RE 'ERE TO BUY THE STUFF, AH DON' DO THAT NO MORE.
THEY'S TOO MANY EYES ON THIS PLACE NAW
SO'S AH'D APPRECIATE IT IF'N YA DIDN' GO 'ROUND TELLIN' FOLKS SOME KID LIVES HERE. GOT IT?
BEAT IT AN' DON' COME BACK
WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?! HE KNOWS WHO WE ARE!
HE WATCHED BLITZ PHOENIX WITH ME!
COME ON, LET'S TRY ANOTHER ANGLE.

OH, UH.. MISTER HARPER.
WE WERE WONDERING IF JESS
WHATEVER YOU WANT, YOU ARE NOT WELCOME HERE.
BUT
YEAH?! WELL SCREW YOU TOO, ASSFACE!
WHICH ONE OF THESE WINDOWS DO YOU THINK IS HER BEDROOM?


old toys
PLINK!
old toys
HEEEEYYY!
YOU HAVE TIME TO TALK?
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
WE HAVEN'T SEEN YOU AROUND SCHOOL MUCH. ARE YOU STILL GOING?
I'M . GOING TO BE HOMESCHOOLED FOR A WHILE. AND TRANSFERRING TO A PRIVATE SCHOOL FOR SENIOR YEAR.
ARE YOU OKAY?
OF COURSE NOT! EVERYONE'S BLAMING ME FOR WHAT HAPPENED! BUT I DON'T--
I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY GABRIEL...

WHAT EVEN HAPPENED? HOW DID TERRY DO ALL THAT? IS HE REALLY SOME SORT OF MONSTER?
IS HE... ACTUALLY TAKEO BLITZ?
THAT'S WHAT I SAID!!
MARK!
HE REALLY DOESN'T LIKE BEING CALLED TAKEO, BUT . HE DOES HAVE POWERS KINDA LIKE HIM?
SORT OF
IT'S A LONG STORY
THE REASON WE'RE HERE IS WE HEARD TERRY WAS RELEASED FROM PRISON, AND--
HE'S
WHAT?

HIS UNCLE'S ACTING REALLY WEIRD AND PRETENDING LIKE HE DOESN'T KNOW HIM OR US
SO WE WANTED TO ASK, HAVE YOU SEEN TERRY COME TO THE HOUSE?
NO! AND I HOPE I DON'T!
HOW DARE YOU COME HERE AND ASK ME THAT!
JESSICA
GET OUT OF HERE! AND DON'T COME BACK!
SLAM!

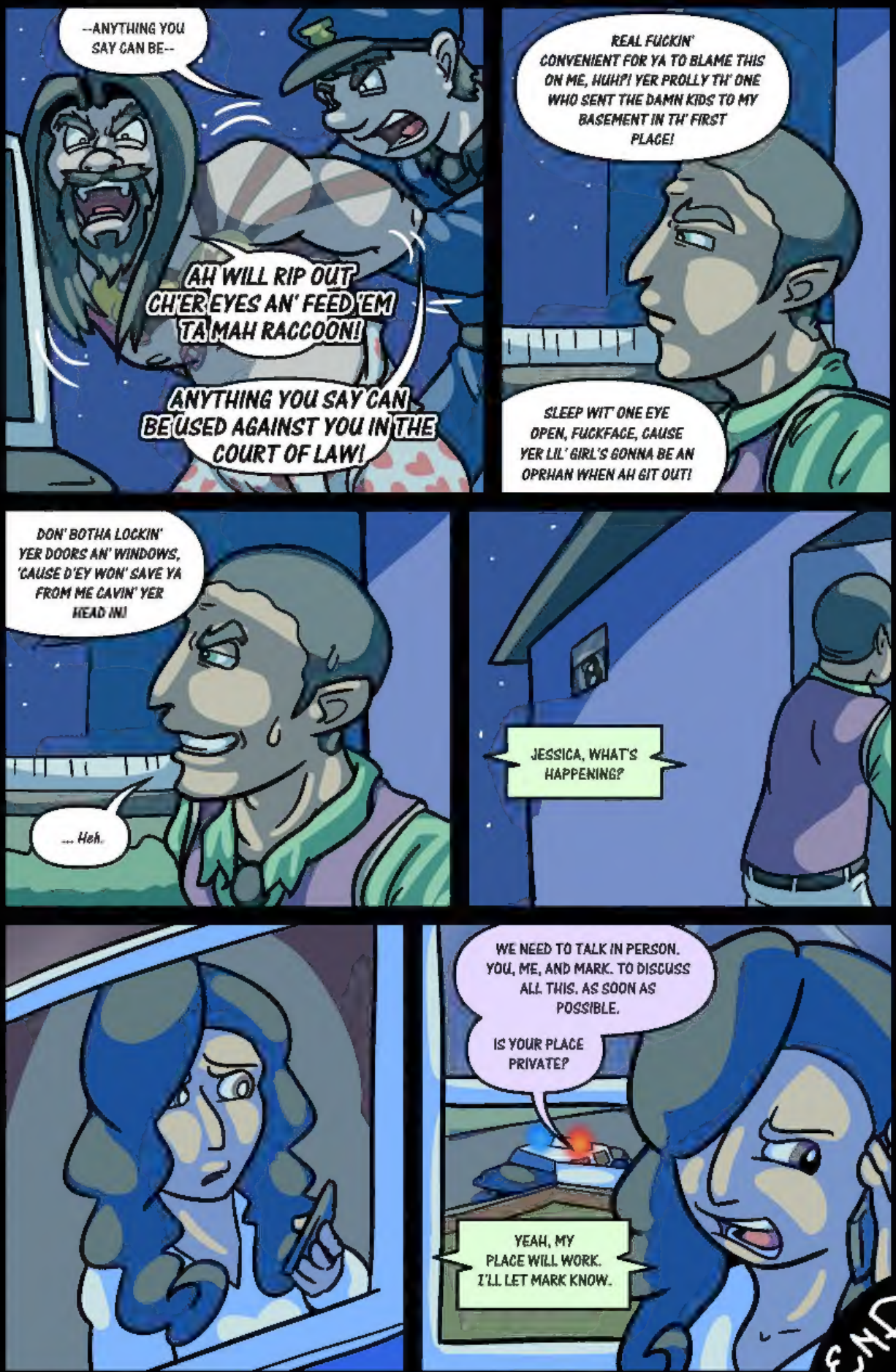
THAT NIGHT .
. HOLD ON THE BOY IS WITH YOU NOW?
NOT IN THE ROOM WITH ME RIGHT THIS MOMENT, BUT HE'S WORKING FOR ME, YES!
YOU'VE NEVER EXPLAINED WHY THIS FAMILY INTERESTS YOU SO MUCH.
IT'S NOTHING FOR YOU TO WORRY ABOUT! BUT I WANTED TO THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR QUICK THINKING THAT HELPED ME CONVINCE HIM TO COME WITH ME.
ERM.. YES I WASN'T SURE IF THAT WOULD BE A PROBLEM--
USUALLY IT WOULD BE, BUT THE SITUATION WAS JUST PERFECT FOR IT
BUT ANYWAY, YOU DID WELL ENOUGH! I HAVE WHAT I NEED NOW. SO I'M OFFICIALLY RELIEVING YOU OF YOUR DUTY TO KEEP TABS ON THAT HOUSE.

YOU MEAN. I CAN FINALLY MOVE AWAY FROM THIS WRETCHED NEIGHBORHOOD?
IF YOU WANT! BUT BEFORE YOU START MAKING PLANS, I THOUGHT I'D THROW IN A LITTLE GIFT FOR YOU. SEEMED FROM OUR PREVIOUS TALKS YOU LIKED THAT HOUSE EXCEPT FOR CHARLES
OH? .. WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
YOU'LL FIND OUT SOON! BUT THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR REPORTING ON THAT HOUSE OVER THE LAST.. OH, WHAT HAS IT BEEN, FIFTEEN YEARS OR SO?
CONSIDER YOUR DEBT REPAID.
REPAID?
KIND OF SAD, REALLY! THIS MIGHT BE THE LAST TIME WE EVER SPEAK.
BUT-- SIR-- WHAT ABOUT KATHERINE? IS SHE- ?
OH, FELIX, ARE YOU TRYING TO SOUR THE GOOD MOOD?
I--
BUT YOU--
YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN THAT.
HAVE A NICE LIFE, FRIEND!
BIP
MOM...?

Typa Typa Typa
Blip Blip!
Blip Blip!
HELLO?
NATALYA.
JESSICA?
TERRY IS WITH HAZARD.
WHAT?
HAZARD'S COMPANY HEADQUARTERS ARE IN CALIFORNIA. SO THAT'S MY BEST GUESS.
CALIFORNIA?! HOW DO YOU KNOW ALL THIS?
MY FATHER'S BEEN DOING BUSINESS WITH HAZARD FOR A LONG TIME. BUT THEY'RE APPARENTLY DONE NOW. I JUST OVERHEARD THEM TALKING ON A CALL.
I NEED YOU TO TELL ME WHAT TERRY'S DEAL IS. WHY DOES HE HAVE POWERS? WHY WAS HE LIVING OUT HERE WITH HIS UNCLE? WHAT DOES HAZARD WANT WITH HIM?
WHY DO YOU WANT TO KNOW ALL OF THE SUDDEN?
BECAUSE MY MOM'S BEEN MISSING MY WHOLE LIFE WITH NO EXPLANATION, AND I JUST FOUND OUT SHE MAY BE WITH HAZARD, TOO.

MY GOD! IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING SOON, THE PRIME MINISTER WILL BE REPLACED BY A ROBOT CLONE!
BUT WHAT DO WE DO, HAROLD?!
BANG! BANG! BANG!
POLICE!
OPEN THE DOOR!
Hruh-wha?!
CHARLES BREYKEN?
CHARLIE.
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST FOR THE DEATHS OF GABRIEL LARSON, ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ, AND ALEX WAGNER.
WHO?!

...WAIT. THEY'RE ARRESTING TERRY'S UNCLE?
HUH?
WHAT FOR?
IT WASN'T ME, YA IDIOTS! IT WAS THE KID! YA ALREADY GOT TH' KID!
WHA'E'R HE TOL' YA 'BOUT ME WAS A LIE!
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT--
E'S A COWARD AN' NEV'R OWNS UP TO 'IS SHIT!
AH WEREN'T EVEN HOME WHEN THEY DIED! IT AIN'T ME!
FELIX! YA SONUVA BITCH, YOU DID THIS!!


--ANYTHING YOU SAY CAN BE--
AH WILL RIP OUT CH'ER EYES AN' FEED 'EM TA MAH RACCOON!
ANYTHING YOU SAY CAN BE USED AGAINST YOU IN THE COURT OF LAW!
REAL FUCKIN' CONVENIENT FOR YA TO BLAME THIS ON ME, HUH?! YER PROLLY TH' ONE WHO SENT THE DAMN KIDS TO MY BASEMENT IN TH' FIRST PLACE!
SLEEP WIT' ONE EYE OPEN, FUCKFACE, CAUSE YER LIL' GIRL'S GONNA BE AN ORPHAN WHEN AH GIT OUT!
DON' BOTHA LOCKIN' YER DOORS AN' WINDOWS, 'CAUSE D'EY WON' SAVE YA FROM ME CAVIN' YER HEAD IN!
... Heh.
JESSICA, WHAT'S HAPPENING?
WE NEED TO TALK IN PERSON. YOU, ME, AND MARK. TO DISCUSS ALL THIS. AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
IS YOUR PLACE PRIVATE?
YEAH, MY PLACE WILL WORK. I'LL LET MARK KNOW.
END